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EDITORIAL and OPINION PAGE**The Power of CIA**

To the Editor: Three recent news releases and news reports have greatly upset me and they all involve the CIA.

Item 1: the offering of a bribe of \$3 million to the president of Singapore.

Item 2: the offering of a bribe of \$50,000 to Gen. Wessin of Santo Domingo.

Item 3: the report that India attacked Pakistan on the basis of information received from the CIA.

Items 1 and 2 were categorically denied by our State Department and then, in the face of overwhelming evidence, finally admitted to by State. Item 3 has not been commented on so far, but certainly should be.

The CIA was hatched in the Truman Administration with consent of Congress as an arm of the State Department, and since that time has seemed to be either lurking in the background or definitely in the foreground of every embarrassing position our government has been subjected to concerning "Cold War" policy. A few such incidents that come to mind are the U2 spy case, Castro being Communist, the Bay of Pigs fiasco and now we have the bribes and the India-Pakistan war and I'm sure there are others.

The fact that a counter-intelligence agency is needed in "Cold War" strategy is not denied, but our type of government is supposed to be a system of checks and balances,

and that apparently went out the window with the creation of this agency. A few questions certainly need answering.

For instance, are the President and Congress informed in advance of these transactions by the CIA? If so, why have our presidents been subjected to embarrassment as in the U2 case where Eisenhower first said he didn't know and then much later he did know, but in the meantime was subjected to Khrushchev's abuse. In the case of Castro, he said he learned he was a Communist at a cocktail party and much too late to do any good.

Congress votes billions for foreign aid every year. It also has a foreign policy committee and internal security subcommittee. Has it been informed of the workings of this super-agency? Has it authorized a certain amount of money for bribes? How much money does this agency spend every year?

As more and more of these types of incidents come to light, as they must in a free society, it becomes more and more clear that this agency seems to be doing as it pleases and when it pleases with few if any restraints. No one voted for these agency heads, so how come they have so much power? As a citizen I'm very upset and I think this type of clandestine policy deserves editorial comment, possibly a newspaper probe and certainly an intensive congressional investigation.

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